

## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Criminal Justice Services

The Honorable Jackson H. Miller Director

Tracy Louise Winn Banks, Esq. Chief Deputy Director

July 14, 2022

Washington Building 1100 Bank Street Richmond, Virginia 23219 (804) 786-4000 www.dcjs.virginia.gov

Sarayu Kulumani Director of Special Programs Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney 520 King St, Ste 301 Alexandria, VA 22314

## Dear Director Kulumani:

I appreciate your participation in the site visit starting on December 9, 2021 regarding DCJS grants 22-O1027VW20 and 21-Y9393VA20. As the awarding agency, it is imperative for DCJS to implement comprehensive programmatic monitoring and assessment activities that engage grantees, track programmatic and fiscal performance, ensure compliance with statutory requirements, mitigate risks and issues and demonstrate the ability to be accountable in the administration and management of grant funds. This letter summarizes the results of the monitoring visit on the above date.

The specific attributes noted by the grant monitor were:

- Speaking with the Victim/Witness Program staff, the office administrator, and the Commonwealth's Attorney was particularly helpful to understand how their work relates to the grants.
- Commonwealth's Attorney was pleased with Director Holl's long-standing leadership and cumulative knowledge of grant-related activities. He mentioned that with her impending retirement, Holl would leave the office in good place for the future and that he is looking forward to working with the new director, who was unnamed at that time.
- The program's staff was able to meet the needs of the city's courts as its increased dockets due
  to backlogged court cases from the pandemic stressed the program clients. Program also has
  been industrious to find a work-around to meet with victims/families that are not English or
  Spanish speakers.

We are impressed by your program's efforts and commend your dedication to enhancing the response to victims of crime. Thank you for your cooperation during the monitoring visit. If you should need further information or technical assistance, please contact your grant monitor Haymanot Cummings at (804) 225-4331 or Haymanot.Cummings@dcjs.virginia.gov

Sincerely,

Haymanot Cummings Victims Services Program Specialists, Division of Programs and Services

## Enclosure

ec: DeAndrea Williams, Manager, Office of Grants Management, Division of Finance and Administration, DCJS Amia Barrows, Team Supervisor, Victims Services, Division of Programs and Services, DCJS James Parajon, City Manager, City of Alexandria Kendel Taylor, Director of Finance, City of Alexandria

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